

of Native Americans and will prove to be the foundation from which other Native American writers, especially women, will continue to explore their unique heritage and society. Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve is a national treasure and the pride of South Dakota.●

TRIBUTE TO F. FRED GOROSPE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and work of a truly remarkable American and long-time Detroit resident, Fred Gorospe. Born in 1902 in the Philippines, he pursued a dream to journey to America and become part of this great democracy. He overcame many obstacles as a young immigrant, and eventually was able to study mechanical engineering at Purdue University, becoming one of only three minorities hired into the engineering department of the Ford Motor Company not long after the Great Depression. He devoted himself to community and public service, and helped pave the way for many Filipino Americans like himself to assimilate into the mainstream of American life. Fred enjoyed a full life of 97 years and had the good fortune of having a loving wife, Helen, and a caring family that includes four sons and four daughters, and 10 grandchildren. He is well-remembered for his great sense of charity, and his unshakeable faith that people working together can make a difference.

In his lifetime, Fred provided leadership to numerous organizations, including the Federation of Filipinos of Michigan, Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, Advisory Council of Wayne County Community College, Advisory Board and Board of Directors of Detroit Area Agency on Aging, Board of Directors of the International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit, President of Far Eastern Festival of Detroit, Steering Committee of Ethnic Festivals of Detroit, cofounder of Fil-Am Association, and member of the University of Michigan and American Assembly of Columbia University on Philippine-American Relations. Fred made a significant contribution to Detroit's culture, and helped to bridge understanding of and appreciation for diversity. He worked hard to advance equal opportunities for education and social and economic achievement, and promoted the American ideal of social justice.

I would like to express my admiration for the life and accomplishments of Fred Gorospe. We can all benefit from his example of courage, perseverance and leadership. Fred has left an indelible mark on Detroit's history and its community. His family can be proud of his legacy. I know my Senate colleagues will join me in paying tribute to Fred Gorospe, and in congratulating his family on his exemplary and

principled dedication to helping and enriching the lives of others.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN REDNOUR

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize John Rednour, who has recently been named the millennium "Outstanding Citizen of the Year" by the Du Quoin Chamber of Commerce.

John Rednour has been a friend of mine for over thirty years. His life story is a fascinating tale of humble origins, a great family, hard work, and success. When others might have relaxed or retired, John and his life's partner Wanda continue to give to others every day. John's record as Mayor of Du Quoin is proof positive of his commitment to public service.

John Rednour has served as the Mayor of the City of Du Quoin, Illinois, for the past 11½ years, and his contributions to the city during his tenure have been outstanding. His hard work and dedication have had a tremendous impact on the city and its people, and it is only fitting that he be singled out for the City of Du Quoin Chamber of Commerce's highest honor.

During his time as Mayor, John Rednour has been instrumental in building new public facilities, including a city hall, library, and police department. These are just the beginning of the list of accomplishments in which Mayor Rednour has played the leading role. The strengthening of the infrastructure through water and sewer improvements may be among the less glamorous projects he has undertaken, but they are very important to Du Quoin. Over the years Mayor Rednour assured the safety of the community by fully staffing the Du Quoin police and fire departments. Also, during his administration, for the first time in the history of the 150-year-old city, Du Quoin has secured city wide fire protection.

John Rednour has also greatly increased the economic vitality of a city that is proud of its mayor. One of the ways in which he was able to boost its economic status was through the construction of the Du Quoin Industrial Park, completed with the aid of the Chamber of Commerce. Over the years, he has also helped to attract numerous businesses to the city, resulting in new jobs to the area. His actions have contributed to a fully staffed tourism commission that has helped to give Du Quoin a firm footing in the tourism industry in Southern Illinois. Mayor Rednour has helped Du Quoin through his ability to gain access to state and federal funding, which has helped the city to complete many of these important projects during his administration. His vision is transforming Du Quoin into a 21st century city.

In closing, Mr. President, all of these achievements, and many more, are the

fruits of the labor of John Rednour. His dedication to his job as Mayor and to his city have made his administration a great success. I applaud John Rednour for his achievements and his many successful efforts to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Du Quoin.●

RETIREMENT OF RAY KAMMER

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, those of us who have been around this town for a while know how much we and this government depend on our civil servants to get the really tough jobs done, to bring ideas to reality, and sometimes to even tell us when our ideas need some adjusting, shall we say. These people don't get much praise, at least not nearly enough.

One of the classic examples of a dedicated civil servant, Ray Kammer, is about to retire from government service after 31 years. Ray retires on December 29 as Director of the Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology, where he spent the vast majority of his career. I have known Ray for a good portion of that time, both from his work at NIST and from the time he spent at the Department's headquarters and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA.

In the late 1980's, the country called upon NIST, which used to be known as the National Bureau of Standards, to help industry rally and regain its competitiveness. It was a time when we first began facing severe competition from overseas. The Bureau's labs had a long-standing reputation for excellence, impartiality, and for working cooperatively with industry. Ray helped us to expand that mission by establishing NIST and adding the Advanced Technology Program, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and the Baldrige National Quality Program. It wasn't easy, but we got it done. Ten years later—with Ray's help—those programs have been tremendously beneficial for this country.

While at NOAA and during his time as Acting Assistant Secretary for Administration at the Commerce Department, Ray helped to stabilize several critical programs that needed the steady hand of an experienced manager. He was the Department's fireman of sorts, always being called on to help put out this fire, put out that fire, and to keep another one from breaking out. Even now, Ray is helping us take a look at how to improve NOAA's fisheries service.

I am sorry that we are losing Ray, especially at a time when NIST is just about to begin its centennial year and the agency will be getting a lot more attention and credit for all of the good work that its staff has done. I want to wish him my very best. I know that I am joined by others in this body who